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INTELLECTUAL
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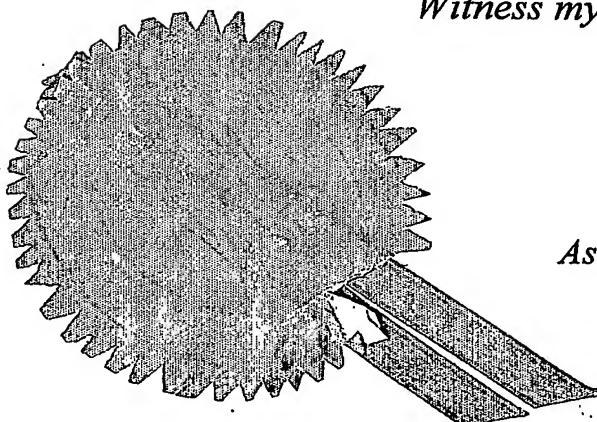
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
PATENT OFFICE, DELHI BRANCH
W - 5, WEST PATEL NAGAR
NEW DELHI - 110 008.**

IN/04/235

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

I, the undersigned being an officer duly authorized in accordance with the provision of the Patent Act, 1970 hereby certify that annexed hereto is the true copy of the Application, Provisional and Complete Specification filed in connection with Application for Patent No.970/Del/2003 dated 06th August 2003.

Witness my hand this 10th day of September 2004.



(S.K. PANGASA)

Assistant Controller of Patents & Designs

0970 DEL 03

COSCB/00

Chemistry

~~7/10/03~~
~~COSCB/00~~

0076 AUG 2003
FORM 1

06 AUG 2003 THE PATENTS ACT, 1970

(39 of 1970)

APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A PATENT OFFICE
[See section 5(2), 7/54 and 129]

Govt. of India Patent Office
New Delhi
Received Rs. 50/- in cash.

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on

06 AUG 2003

Viz. B
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I/We, Department of Science & Technology,
Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road,
New Delhi - 110 016,
India.

2. Hereby declare:-

- (a) That I am/we are in possession of an invention titled:-
- (b) **A process for the manufacture of a water insoluble bio-release fertilizer of an anionic micro-nutrient, viz. molybdenum.**
- (c) That the Provisional/Complete Specification relating to this invention is filed with this application.
- (d) That there is no lawful ground of objection to grant of a Patent to me/us.

3. Further declare that the inventor(s) for the said invention is:-

- (a) Dr. (Ms) Chandrika Varadachari,
Director
- (b) Raman Centre for Applied and Interdisciplinary Sciences,
16A Jheel Road,
Kolkata - 700 075,
- (c) West, Bengal,
India. An Indian Citizen.
- (d)
- (e)

4. I/We, claim the priority from the application(s) filed in convention countries, particulars of which are as follows:-

- (a) NIL
- (b) NONE

5. I/We state that the said invention is an improvement in or modification of the particulars of which are as follows and of which I/We are the Applicant/Patentee:

- (a) NIL
- (b) NONE

6. I/We state that the application is divided out of my/our application, the particulars of which are given below and pray that this application be deemed to have been filed on under section 16 of the Act:

- (a) NONE
- (b)

7. That I am/We are the assignee or legal representative of the true and first Inventors.

8. That my/our addresses for service in India is as follows:

<u>Head Office</u>	<u>Branch Office</u>
RAJAGOPALAN & ASSOCIATES	RAJAGOPALAN & ASSOCIATES
15, Ganesh Chandra Avenue,	114F/1D, Selimpur Road,
2 nd Floor, Room No. 6.,	Ground Floor, Aditya Apartments,
Hoare Miller Building,	Calcutta 700 031
Calcutta 700 013	
Phone No. (91) (33) 237-4875	Phone No. (91) (33) 472-6275
Fax No. (91) (33) 215-3802	Fax No. (91) (33) 472-6275
(91) (33) 225-4160	(91) (33) 473-0236

9. Following declaration was given by the inventor (s) or applicant (s) in the convention country: -

NONE
I/We the true and first inventors for this invention or the applicant (s) in the convention country declare that the applicant(s) herein is/are my/our assignee or legal representative:

- (a) *Ganesh Chandra Banerjee*
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

10. That to the best of my/our knowledge, information and belief the fact and matters stated herein are correct and that there is no lawful ground of objection to the grant of patent to me/us on this application.

11. Following are the attachment with the application:-

- (a) Provisional/Complete Specification (3 copies).
- (b) Drawings (3 copies).
- (c) Priority document(s).
- (d) Statement and undertaking on Form None.

(e) Power of Attorney: To follow.

(f)

(g)

(h)

(i) Fee Rs. 3000/- in Cash/Cheque/Bank Draft bearing No. 008736
date 04.08.03 on Bank of India Bank.

I/We request that a Patent may be granted to me/us for the said invention.

Dated this 31/5/— day of JULY, 2003



For (Full name & Status)

R. Sarla
Advisor/Scientist G
Dept. of Science & Technology
Govt. of India
Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road,
New Delhi-110 016

TO

THE CONTROLLER OF PATENTS,
THE PATENT OFFICE,
CALCUTTA/NEW DELHI/MUMBAI/CHENNAI.

0970 DEPT 017

THE PATENT ACT, 1970

PROVISIONAL

SPECIFICATION

(SECTION -10)

006 ANGE 2003

05 AUG 2003

TITLE

'A PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A WATER INSOLUBLE
BIO FERTILIZER OF AN ANIONIC MICRO-NUTRIENT, VIZ. MOLYBDENUM'

APPLICANT

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION, FORECASTING AND ASSESSMENT
COUNCIL (TIFAC), DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DST),
TECHNOLOGY BHAVAN, NEW MEHRAULI ROAD, NEW DELHI 110016.
AN INDIAN GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION.

ORIGINAL

The following specification particularly describes and ascertains the
nature of this invention and the manner in which the same is to be performed.

A PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIO-RELEASE MOLYBDENUM FERTILIZER

Field of invention

This invention relates to a process for the manufacture of a water insoluble bio-release fertilizer of an anionic micronutrient, viz., molybdenum.

Background of the invention

Molybdenum is a micronutrient, which is required by plants in very small amounts. At present molybdenum fertilisation is done using soluble salts like ammonium molybdate or sodium molybdate (J.J. Mortvedt, P.M. Giordano & W.L. Lindsay, 1972, Micronutrients in Agriculture, Soil Sc. Soc Am., Madison). The disadvantage of using such soluble salts is that fertilizer use-efficiency is very low owing to leaching losses, fixation by minerals in the soil, etc. Water insoluble, slow -release forms of molybdenum fertilizers are practically unknown. Phosphate glass frits have been prepared which contain molybdenum in addition to other micronutrients (G.J. Roberts, 1977, Natl. Glass Budget, July 21). Such frits are usually prepared by fusing ammonium or sodium dihydrogen orthophosphates with micronutrient salts, between 800° and 1400°C, to produce a melt and then rapidly cooling it by pouring on to a cold plate (G.J. Roberts 1973, Am. Ceram. Soc. Bull. Vol.52, p383; ibid, idem, Vol 54, p1069; Austrian Patent No 326160 of 1975; US Patent No. 3574591 of 1971; US Patent No 2713536 of 1974; US Patent No 3958973 of 1976). A Russian Patent (SU 1270148 of 1986) describes the production of a mixed metaphosphate based fertilizer containing Zn, Cu, Mo, Mn, Co, K, Na, etc. An Indian patent (Indian Patent No 175597 of 1991) describes the synthesis of a boron fertilizer which is a slow-release compound.

The major disadvantage of glass frits is their process of production, which involves very high temperatures and highly corrosive melts. Another disadvantage is that, in such frits, nutrient release is controlled by hydrolysis of the compound and is dependent on soil pH, moisture conditions, etc. Therefore, rates of nutrient release may not always match crop requirements and the frits may not function as an effective nutrient source.

There is no process available as yet for producing a water insoluble molybdenum fertilizer in which the nutrient ions will yet be in a plant available form and thereby function as an effective source of molybdenum.

Objects of the invention

The object of this invention is to propose a process for the manufacture of a new type of bio-release fertilizer of molybdenum. Yet another object of this invention is to propose a process for the manufacture of bio-release molybdenum fertilizer, which is simple, requires lower energy than all previous processes and provides an effective source of molybdenum for plants.

Description of the invention

According to this invention there is provided a process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers, which process comprises heating molybdenum trioxide, magnesium oxide, sodium carbonate and phosphoric acid till the solids are essentially dissolved, further heating to form the solid polyphosphate and finally obtaining the dried powder.

Molybdenum fertilizer

The starting materials include molybdenum trioxide (containing upto 66.6 % Mo), magnesia (containing up to 60 % Mg), sodium carbonate (containing up to 43.4 % Na) and phosphoric acid (containing up to 60 % P₂O₅). The molar ratio of Mo : Mg : Na : P used is, 1.04 : 1 : 2.8 : 7.09. This ratio has been selected so as to produce a magnesium polyphosphate linear chain in which some mo atoms are present in the chain and there are enough Na atoms to bond with Mo forming mo-O-Na linkages. Amounts of Mo may be increased but this will lead to a more water-soluble product. Reducing the ratios of Mo will lead to too low percentage of Mo in the product. Levels of Na may also be increased but this does not result in any beneficial effect on the process or the product. Higher levels of P will result in residual acidity in the product and lower P levels will not yield the desired product.

The reaction mixture is taken in a glass beaker and digested over a hot plate at 150°C. Lower temperatures up to 100°C may also be used but this will require longer reaction periods. The heating is continued till a thick homogenous slurry is obtained. This is subsequently poured into stainless steel (SS 316 L) trays and heated in a furnace at 300°C for 90 min. The final product is a

Dry solid. Higher temperatures may also be used with lower reaction periods but control of reaction may be difficult. At lower temperatures (e.g., 250 °C) the reaction is too slow and excessively long periods will be required. The product is ground and sieved through 100 mesh. The principle underlying the production of molybdenum fertilizer according to the process of the present invention is that when MoO₃, MgO and Na₂CO₃ are heated with phosphoric acid, they dissolve in it forming molybdophosphates and dihydrogen phosphates of magnesium and sodium. MgO and Na₂CO₃ is more resistant to dissolution and requires higher reaction temperatures of about 150 °C. About 200 °C polymerisation will begin and, therefore, initial digestion temperatures must not be too high.

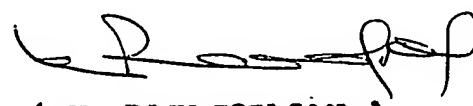
When the reactants are heated to polymerisation temperatures, water (H₂O) is eliminated between adjacent phosphate groups forming a linear-P-O-P-O-P- chain. Some Mo substitute for P in the chain, forming -P-O-Mo-O-P- linkages. This is a linear negatively charged chain where the negative charges, on the O atoms bound to P and Mo₂ are balanced by Mg and Na. Since the product is a very long chain metaphosphate, much of the H atoms on P-OH groups are eliminated as H₂O and the product has, therefore, no residual acidity. It is also dry and non-hygroscopic. This invention presents a substantial improvement over previous processes for the production of slow-release molybdenum fertilizers (bio-release molybdenum, produced so far, are glass frits. In the present process, temperatures required (around 300 °C) are much lower than for production of frits (>800 °C.) Energy requirements are, therefore, much lower. Moreover, reaction conditions are also much less corrosive and stainless steel vessels can be used instead of platinum. The product is also a much superior fertilizer, since it contains the entire Mo in a plant available form. The product is also non-toxic, non-polluting, easy to apply and exhibits increased fertilizer use-efficiency.

Various modifications are within our investigation. Thus, the four components need not be added one after the other to form a total mass for reaction.

These may be added in group of two or more, reaction carried out and incremental addition may also be possible.

We are also investigating alternate reactions and reaction patterns and neutralizing agents where needed.

Dated this 31st day of July, 2003


(K. RAJAGOPALAN)
OF RAJAGOPALAN & ASSOCIATES
AGENT FOR THE APPLICANTS

05 AUG 2004

THE PATENT ACT, 1970

COMPLETE

SPECIFICATION

(SECTION - 10)

TITLE

"A PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A BIO-RELEASE
FERTILISER OF AN ANIONIC MICRO NUTRIENT VIZ MOLIBDENUM"

APPLICANT

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DST),
TECHNOLOGY BHAWAN, NEW MEHRAULI ROAD,
NEW DELHI - 110 016, INDIA.
AN INDIAN GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION.

ORIGINAL

The following specification particularly describes and ascertains the nature of this invention and the manner in which it is to be performed.

Field of invention

This invention relates to a process for the manufacture of a water insoluble bio-release fertilizer of an anionic micronutrient, viz., molybdenum.

Background of the invention

Molybdenum is a micronutrient, which is required by plants in very small amounts. At present molybdenum fertilisation is done using soluble salts like ammonium molybdate or sodium molybdate (J.J. Mortvedt, P.M. Giordano & W.L. Lindsay, 1972, *Micronutrients in Agriculture*, Soil Sci. Soc. Am., Madison). The disadvantage of using such soluble salts is that fertilizer use-efficiency is very low owing to leaching losses, fixation by minerals in the soil, etc. Water insoluble, slow-release forms of molybdenum fertilizers are practically unknown. Phosphate glass frits have been prepared which contain molybdenum in addition to other micronutrients (G.J. Roberts, 1977, *Natl. Glass Budget*, July 21). Such frits are usually prepared by fusing ammonium or sodium dihydrogen orthophosphates with micronutrient salts, at temperatures between 800° and 1400°C, to produce a melt and then rapidly cooling it by pouring on to a cold plate (G.J. Roberts 1973, *Am. Ceram. Soc. Bull.* Vol 52, p383; ibid, idem, Vol 54, p1069; Austrian Patent No 326160 of 1975; US Patent No. 3574591 of 1971; US Patent No 2713521 of 1974; US Patent No

3958973 of 1976). A Russian Patent (SU 1270148 of 1986) describes the production of a mixed metaphosphate based fertilizer containing Zn, Cu, Mo, Mn, Co, K, Na, etc. An Indian patent (No 175597 of 1991) describes the synthesis of a boron fertilizer, which is a slow-release compound.

The major disadvantage of glass frits is their process of production, which involves very high temperatures and highly corrosive melts. Another disadvantage is that, in such frits, nutrient release is controlled by hydrolysis of the compound and is dependent on soil pH, moisture conditions, etc. Therefore, rates of nutrient release may not always match crop requirements and the frits may not function as an effective nutrient source.

Another type of slow-release fertilizer has been produced in which the micronutrient ions are in a chemical form wherein they are insoluble but also plant available. These belong to the bio-release types of slow-release fertilizers. The processes for producing such phosphate based zinc and copper fertilizers are described in two Indian patents (Nos 172800 of 1990 and 177205 of 1991). The chemistry of zinc and copper phosphate polymerisation and the chemical nature of these fertilizers have also been described (SK Ray, C Varadachari & K Ghosh, 1993, Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. Vol. 32, p. 1218; SK Ray, C Varadachari & K Ghosh, 1997, J. Agric. Food Chem., vol. 45, p. 1447). Another Indian

patent (Application No 10/Cal/99) describes processes for producing slow-releasing fertilizers of the cationic micronutrients.

The present invention provides processes for producing slow-releasing, water insoluble molybdenum fertilizers, which will also show good bio-availability of the nutrients and thus provide an effective source of molybdenum for plants. It also provides magnesium and phosphorous as additional plant nutrients.

Objectives of the invention

The primary object of this invention is to propose a process for the manufacture of a new type of bio-release fertilizer of molybdenum.

Yet another object of this invention is to propose a process for the manufacture of bio-release molybdenum fertilizer, which is simple, requires lower energy than previous processes and provides an effective source of molybdenum for plants.

These and other objects of the invention will be apparent from the following paragraphs.

Description of the invention

According to this invention there is provided a process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers which comprises heating molybdenum trioxide, one or more basic compound(s) of metal(s) selected from magnesium, calcium and sodium, and phosphoric acid till a solid polyphosphate is obtained and finally obtaining the dried powder.

When molybdenum trioxide (MoO_3) and a basic compound such as oxides or carbonates of magnesium and sodium, are heated with phosphoric acid, reaction occurs to form the phosphates of the metal ions, which subsequently polymerise to form magnesium sodium polymolybdophosphate.

Here polymerization occurs by removal of H_2O between adjacent P- OH groups of phosphates with the formation of P-O-P bonds. Removal of free water from the system by heating facilitates the reactions. Molybdenum is incorporated into the polymer forming -P-O-P-Mo-O-P-O- type of chains.

Polymerisation is allowed to continue till almost complete, whereupon a dry, friable powdery material is formed. It is ground to a free flowing, non-hygroscopic product.

The presence of reducing impurities in any of the raw materials interferes with the process. Thus, ferrous iron which is a common impurity in phosphoric acid reduces Mo from the + VI oxidation state to the lower + III state. To avoid

such reduction of Mo, an oxidant such as MnO₂ (pyrolusite) is added, which oxides Fe²⁺ to the harmless Fe³⁺ form.

Molybdenum fertilizer

The starting materials include molybdenum trioxide (containing up to 66.6 % Mo), magnesia (containing up to 60 % Mg), sodium carbonate (containing up to 43.4 % Na) and phosphoric acid (containing up to 60 % P₂O₅). The weight ratio of Mo : Na : Mg : P used is, 1 : 0.96 : 2.53 : 6.46; the corresponding molar ratio is 1 : 4 : 10 : 20. Molar ratio of Mo : P may be varied between 1 : 5 and 1 : 30 without seriously affecting product properties. Molar ratio of 1 : 20 has been selected as the optimum so as to produce a fertilizer with low Mo levels, which are more suitable for dispersion in the soil matrix.

Amounts of Mo may be increased if desired. Reducing the ratios of Mo will lead to too low percentage of Mo in the product. Amount of Na taken is optimally at a molar ratio of 4 with respect to Mo. Levels of Na may also be increased but this does not result in any beneficial effect on the process or the product. Lower levels of Na result in a product with reduced solubility in organic chelates. Higher proportions of P will result in residual acidity in the product and lower P ratios will not yield the desired product. Amount of Mg is in the ratio Mg : P = 1 : 2 which is sufficient to form the dihydrogen phosphate.

Lower Mg ratios will result in stickiness in the final product and higher Mg will cause monohydrogen phosphates and this will reduce polymerization.

All reactants are mixed together, taken in stainless steel trays and heated in a furnace at a temperature range of $250\text{-}350^{\circ}\text{C}$ till dry. At the optimum temperature of 300°C , a reaction period of 90 min is required.

The final product is a dry solid. Higher temperatures may also be used with lower reaction periods but control of reaction may be difficult. At lower temperatures (e.g., 250°C), the reaction is too slow and excessively long periods will be required. The product is ground and sieved through 100 mesh.

Alternately, sodium carbonate is dissolved in a minimum amount of water with heating, molybdenum trioxide is added and heating is continued till it is almost dissolved. Magnesium carbonate and phosphoric are mixed and the molybdate solution is added to it. The slurry is heated as described above.

The reaction may also be performed without sodium carbonate, by substituting sodium carbonate by magnesium oxide or carbonate. In such a case, the molar ratio of Mo : Mg : P = 1 : 12 : 20. Here, 2 moles of Mg substitute for 4 moles of Na. The reaction is then carried out as described above.

Magnesium oxide may be substituted with magnesium carbonate, or oxides / carbonates of calcium. The molar ratios of cation : P are maintained at 2 : 1.

Reaction is carried out as described earlier. When the reaction is carried out using calcium carbonate or oxide, product is hard and not as friable as with magnesium compound.

The principle underlying the production of molybdenum fertilizer according to the process of the present invention is that when MoO_3 , MgO and Na_2CO_3 are heated with phosphoric acid, they dissolve in it forming molybdophosphates and dihydrogen phosphates of magnesium and sodium. MgO and Na_2CO_3 dissolve readily in phosphoric acid even at lower reaction temperatures of around 100°C . MoO_3 is more resistant to dissolution and requires higher reaction temperatures of about 150°C . Prior heating of MoO_3 with Na_2CO_3 produces sodium molybdate, which is then added to the phosphoric acid-magnesia system for further reaction.

When the reactants are heated to polymerisation temperatures, water (H_2O) is eliminated between adjacent phosphate groups forming a linear -P-O-P-O-P- chain; some Mo substitute for P in the chain forming -P-O-Mo-O-P- linkages. This is a linear negatively charged chain where the negative charges, on the O atoms bound to P and Mo, are balanced by Mg and Na. Since the product is a very long chain metaphosphate, much of the H atoms on P-OH groups are eliminated as H_2O and the product has, therefore, no residual acidity. It is also dry and non-hygroscopic.

Advantages of the invention

This invention presents a substantial improvement over previous processes for the production of slow-release molybdenum fertilizers (bio-release molybdenum fertilizers have not been produced before). The only types of slow-release fertilizer containing molybdenum, produced so far, are glass frits.

In the present process, temperatures required (around 300°C) are much lower than for production of frits ($>800^{\circ}\text{C}$). Energy requirements are, therefore, much lower. Moreover reaction conditions are also much less corrosive and stainless steel vessels can be used instead of platinum.

The product is also a much superior fertilizer, since it contains the entire Mo in a plant available form. The product is also non-toxic, non-polluting, easy to apply and exhibits increased fertilizer use-efficiency.

Example 1

Phosphoric acid (122g) containing 60 % P_2O_5 is taken in a glass beaker and 7.5 g molybdenum trioxide (MoO_3 containing 66 % Mo), 22 g magnesium oxide (MgO containing 60 % Mg) and 11 g sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3 containing 43 % Na) are added to it. The mixture is stirred. Much frothing occurs due to the evolution of CO_2 gas from Na_2CO_3 . This is poured into

stainless steel trays and placed in a muffle furnace at 300°C. Frothing occurs during polymerisation and the surface of the solidified mass becomes bloated. After 90 min of heating, the desired product is obtained.

A sample is tested for solubility in 0.33M citric acid and 0.1 N HCl. A clear solution is obtained within 30 min. The rest of the product is ground in a mortar and sieved through 100 mesh sieve. It contains 4.2 % MoO₃, 50.1% P₂O₅ and 19.2 % MgO and 2.4 % Na₂O. Field trials with this fertilizer carried out at Baruipur, West Bengal, India showed that the yield of cabbage increased by 4750 kg/ha on application of 40g/ha of Mo as the bio-release fertilizer. Residual effect of the fertilizer increased the yield of black gram by 230 kg/ha.

Example 2

In this example magnesium carbonate is used instead of magnesium oxide. 84 g phosphoric acid (containing 58.5 % P₂O₅) is taken in a beaker. To it 34.4 g magnesium carbonate (containing 84.3 % MgCO₃) is added followed by 10.7 g soda ash (containing 68 % Na₂CO₃), 5 g molybdenum trioxide (containing 99 % MoO₃) and 0.3 g pyrolusite (containing 85% MnO₂). The reaction is carried out as described in example 1.

Example 3

Phosphoric acid and magnesium oxide are taken as described in example 1.

In a separate beaker, 11g Na_2CO_3 and 7.5g MoO_3 are taken, about 20 ml of water is added and the mixture is heated to boiling till the solution is almost clear. Then the molybdate solution is added to it, the solution is stirred and the reaction carried out as described in example 1.

Example 4

In this process the proportion of Mo in the fertilizer is increased to Mo : P = 1 : 10. Phosphoric acid (83.4 g) containing 58.5 % P_2O_5 is taken in a glass beaker and 10 g molybdenum trioxide (MoO_3 containing 99.5 % MoO_3), 34.4 g magnesium carbonate (MgCO_3 containing 82.3 % MgCO_3), 21.4 g sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3 containing 68 % Na_2CO_3) and 0.3 g pyrolusite (85% MnO_2) are added to it. The mixture is reacted as described in example 1.

Example 5

In this process calcium carbonate is used instead of magnesium carbonate or oxide. The process is the same as in example 2 except that instead of magnesium carbonate, 34.9 g calcium carbonate (containing 98.5 % CaCO_3) is

used. Reaction period is 30 min at 300°C. Product properties are different from the Mg-system. The product is hard and turns blue on exposure to air.

Example 6

In this example sodium carbonate is replaced by magnesium carbonate. 83.4 g phosphoric acid (containing 58.5 % P₂O₅) is taken in a beaker. To it 41.4 g magnesium carbonate (containing 84.3 % MgCO₃) is added followed by 5 g molybdenum trioxide (containing 99 % MoO₃). The reaction is carried out as described in example 1.

We Claim,

- (1) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers which comprises heating molybdenum trioxide, one or more basic compound(s) of metal(s) selected from magnesium, calcium and sodium, and phosphoric acid till a solid polyphosphate is obtained and finally obtaining the dried powder.
- (2) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 1, wherein molybdenum trioxide (MoO_3) and a basic compound such as oxides or carbonates of magnesium, calcium and/or sodium, are heated with phosphoric acid..
- (3) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein polymerisation is allowed to occur by removal of H_2O between adjacent P-OH groups of phosphates with the formation of P-O-P bonds by heating
- (4) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 3, wherein, the polymerisation is allowed to continue till almost complete, whereupon a dry, friable powdery material is formed.

- (5) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 4 wherein the dry material obtained is ground to a free flowing, non-hygroscopic product
- (6) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 to 5 wherein reducing impurities in any of the raw materials which may interfere with the process is removed by the addition of an oxidant such as MnO₂ (pyrolusite).
- (7) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 1 wherein the product obtained is, a magnesium sodium polymolybdophosphate.
- (8) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in the preceding claims wherein the starting materials include molybdenum trioxide (containing up to 66.6 % Mo), magnesia (containing up to 60 % Mg), sodium carbonate (containing up to 43.4 % Na) and phosphoric acid (containing up to 60 % P₂O₅).

(9) A process as claimed in claim 9 wherein the weight ratio of Mo : Na : Mg : P used is, 1 : 0.96 : 2.53 : 6.46; the corresponding molar ratio is 1 : 4 : 10 : 20.

(10) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 and 8 wherein molar ratio of Mo : P may be varied between 1 : 5 and 1 : 30 without seriously affecting product properties and is preferably in the molar ratio of 1 : 20 so as to produce a fertilizer with low Mo levels..

(11) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 and 8 wherein the amount of Na is optimally at a molar ratio of 4 with respect to Mo.

(12) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 and 8 wherein the amount of Mg is in the ratio Mg : P = 1 : 2 which is sufficient to form the dihydrogen phosphate.

(13) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 to 7 and 10 wherein the starting materials include

molybdenum trioxide (containing up to 66.6 % Mo), sodium carbonate (containing up to 43.4 % Na) and phosphoric acid (containing up to 60 % P₂O₅).

(14) A process as claimed in claims 1 and 13 wherein the molar ratio of Mo : Na : P optimally used is, 1 : 24 : 20.

(15) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 to 7 and 10 wherein the starting materials include molybdenum trioxide (containing up to 66.6 % Mo), magnesia (containing up to 60 % Mg), and phosphoric acid (containing up to 60 % P₂O₅).

(16) A process as claimed in claims 1 and 15 wherein the molar ratio of Mo : Mg : P optimally used is, 1 : 12 : 20.

(17) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 to 16 wherein all reactants are mixed together, and heated at a temperature range of 200-350°C till dry.

(18) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claim 17 wherein the optimum temperature is 300°C.

(19) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers as claimed in claims 1 to 16 and 18 wherein molybdenum trioxide is first heated in a solution of the base, which is selected from oxides and carbonates of sodium, calcium and magnesium and then further heated with phosphoric acid till dry.

(20) A process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers substantially as herein described with reference to the examples.

DATED THIS THE ~~Four~~ DAY OF AUGUST 2004.



(K.RAJAGOPALAN)

(RAJAGOPALAN AND ASSOCIATES)

(AGENT FOR APPLICANT)

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ABSTRACT

This invention describes a process for the preparation of bio-release molybdenum fertilizers which comprises heating molybdenum trioxide, one or more basic compound(s) of metal(s) selected from magnesium, calcium and sodium, and phosphoric acid till a solid polyphosphate is obtained and finally obtaining the dried powder.

ORIGINAL

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